

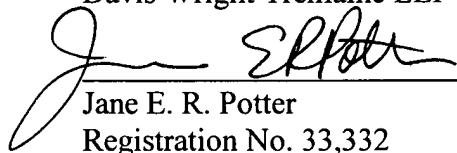
REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2003, applicants submit this amendment. Claims 17 as amended is no longer subject to the ground of rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as the reference to "nucleotide analogues" is no longer recited. Claim 18 depends from Claim 17. Claim 12 is amended as proposed in the Examiner's Amendment dated August 12, 2003.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If questions remain regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (206) 628-7650.

Respectfully submitted,
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Amendment to the Claims

In the claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Amended) An isolated Akt3 inhibitor wherein said inhibitor is an antisense molecule, and wherein said antisense molecule comprises a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, wherein said antisense molecule is not longer than 35 nucleotides in length and is capable of inhibiting the expression of human Akt3.

Claims 6-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising ~~a therapeutically effective amount of~~ an Akt3 antisense molecule and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said antisense molecule is not longer than 35 molecules in length and comprises a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

13. (Previously Amended) A method of decreasing the expression of Akt3 in a mammalian cell *in vitro*, comprising administering to said cell an Akt3 inhibitor wherein said Akt3 inhibitor is an antisense molecule selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

Claims 14-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising:
a. a polynucleotide comprising a transcription initiation region; and
b. a polynucleotide sequence encoding an antisense oligonucleotide at least 8 nucleotides ~~or nucleotide analogues~~ and not longer than 35 nucleotides in length comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

18. (Previously Amended) A recombinant vector the isolated polynucleotide of claim 17.